THE LAST FERRY

Written by

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5 November 2026

1 EXT. HARBOUR - DUSK 1

Rain on black water. A small ferry idles at the end of the pier. Its only light swings with the swell.

NOA, 34, runs along the pier with a suitcase in one hand and a wet envelope in the other.

NOA
(shouting)
Hold the boat!

ELI, 60, the ferryman, does not look up from his rope.

ELI
Last one left an hour ago.

NOA
Then what is this?

ELI
This is my boat. It goes when the tide says.

2 INT. FERRY - WHEELHOUSE - NIGHT 2

A single bulb. Noa drips onto the floorboards and holds out the envelope.

NOA
My father wrote that you would know the house.

Eli reads the address. He folds the page very slowly and hands it back.

ELI
He told you I would take you there?

NOA
He told me you owed him.

ELI
And what did I owe him?

NOA
(at once)
I hoped you would tell me.

Eli starts the engine. The whole cabin begins to shake.

ELI
The house burned down before you were born. Whoever gave you that address never wanted you to find it. But the island is still there,
(MORE)

ELI (CONT'D)
and so is the man who lit the fire, and he is old now and he sits on the same bench every evening looking at this water. So I will take you across, because I owe your father that much, and then you will decide for yourself how much of this you want to know. You can stay on the boat. Most people do.

NOA
Most people?

ELI
You are not the first one with an envelope.

CUT TO:

3 EXT. ISLAND JETTY - NIGHT 3

The ferry bumps against the tyres. No lights on shore. Noa climbs out and stands on the planks with her suitcase.

NOA
Are you coming?

ELI
I go when the tide says.

He backs the ferry away. She watches its light get smaller, then turns toward the dark.